



California Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans News

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NEWS FROM THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE



July 13, 2007

GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER ISSUES STATEMENT ON DEATH OF CAMP PENDLETON MARINE

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Cpl. Jeremy D. Allbaugh, of Luther, OK:

"Our nation's servicemen and women put their lives on the line to protect the freedoms we enjoy every day. Corporal Jeremy Allbaugh's bravery in the face of danger is an inspiration to all Californians. Maria and I join all Californians in extending our heartfelt sympathies to Jeremy's family and friends."

Allbaugh, 21, died July 5 as a result of wounds suffered while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Allbaugh was assigned to 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, United States Marine Corps, Camp Pendleton, CA.

In honor of Cpl. Allbaugh, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



July 13, 2007

GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER ISSUES STATEMENT ON DEATH OF TRACY SOLDIER

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Pfc. Bruce C. Salazar Jr., of Tracy, CA:

"Words cannot adequately convey our gratitude for Private First Class Bruce Salazar's brave sacrifice for our country. He pursued the cause of liberty with strength and resolve. Maria and I extend our deepest condolences to Bruce's family, friends and fellow soldiers in their time of mourning."

Salazar, 24, died July 6 as a result of wounds sustained from an improvised explosive device in Muhammad Sath, Iraq. Salazar was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd

Infantry Division, United States Army, Fort Stewart, GA.

In honor of Pfc. Salazar, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



July 18, 2007

GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER ISSUES STATEMENT ON DEATH OF CAMP PENDLETON MARINE

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Lance Cpl. Steven A. Stacy, of Coos Bay, OR:

"Lance Corporal Steven Stacy's noble pledge to our nation was unwavering. His valiant dedication to the fight for freedom and the preservation of democracy will never be forgotten. Maria and I offer our sincere condolences to the family and friends of this brave Marine."

Stacy, 23, died July 5 as a result of wounds suffered while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Stacy was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, United States Marine Corps, Camp Pendleton, CA.

In honor of Lance Cpl. Stacy, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



July 18, 2007

GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER ISSUES STATEMENT ON DEATH OF TWENTYNINE PALMS MARINE

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Lance Cpl. Angel R. Ramirez of Brooklyn, NY:

"Today, we honor Lance Corporal Angel Ramirez who gave his life in the service of his country and freedom. As a member of the armed forces, Angel fulfilled a tremendous responsibility to our nation's citizens. Maria and I send out heartfelt sympathies and prayers to the family and friends of this brave Marine in their time of grief."

Ramirez, 28, died February 21 at Marine Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, CA, after being medically evacuated following a non-hostile incident in Al Qaim, Iraq, on December 21, 2006. Ramirez was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, United States Marine Corps, Twentynine Palms, CA.

The announcement surrounding the death of this Marine was delayed by the United States Department of Defense due to an administrative adjustment to the Marine's original death classification.

In honor of Lance Cpl. Ramirez, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



July 20, 2007

GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER ISSUES STATEMENT ON DEATH OF CRESTLINE SOLDIER

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Spc. Eric M. Holke, of Crestline, CA:

"The loss of Specialist Eric Holke weighs heavily on the hearts of all Californians. Eric risked his life to safeguard the lives of all Americans and our country will be forever indebted to him for his sacrifice. Maria and I extend our thoughts and prayers to his family and friends in their time of grief."

Holke, 31, died July 15 as a result of injuries sustained from a vehicle rollover accident near the city of Tallil, Iraq. Holke was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 160th Infantry, California Army National Guard, Fullerton, CA.

In honor of Spc. Holke, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



July 24, 2007

GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER ISSUES STATEMENT ON DEATH OF FAIR OAKS SOLDIER

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Sgt. Ronald L. Coffelt, of Fair Oaks, CA:

"The loss of Sergeant Ronald Coffelt reminds us of the tremendous sacrifices that members of our armed forces make to protect our freedom. Maria and I thank him for his dedication and love for his country; his bravery will forever remain an inspiration to all Californians. We extend our deepest condolences to his family and friends and will pray for their comfort during this difficult time."

Coffelt, 36, died July 19 as a result of wounds suffered from an improvised explosive device in Baghdad, Iraq. Coffelt was assigned to the 503rd Military Police Battalion, 16th Military Police Brigade (Airborne), XVIII Airborne Corps, United States Army, Fort Bragg, NC.

In honor of Sgt. Coffelt, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



July 24, 2007

GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER ISSUES STATEMENT ON DEATH OF CAMP PENDLETON MARINE

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Cpl. Christopher G. Scherer, of East Northport, NY:

"The death of Corporal Christopher Scherer is a tremendous loss to our nation. Maria and I, along with all Californians, mourn the loss of this brave individual and express our sincere gratitude for his selfless service in

defense of our country. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family in this time of grief."

Scherer, 21, died July 21 as a result of wounds suffered while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Scherer was assigned to the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, United States Marine Corps, Camp Pendleton, CA.

In honor of Cpl. Scherer, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



July 25, 2007

GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER ISSUES STATEMENT ON DEATH OF CAMP PENDLETON MARINE

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Lance Cpl. Shawn V. Starkovich, of Arlington, WA:

"Maria and I are saddened by the death of one of our nation's heroic marines. Lance Corporal Shawn Starkovich served our country with tremendous courage and profound bravery. Shawn's commitment to his country will not be forgotten. Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers go to his family and friends as they mourn their loss."

Starkovich, 20, died July 16 while supporting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Starkovich was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, United States Marine Corps, Camp Pendleton, CA.

In honor of Lance Cpl. Starkovich, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



July 25, 2007

GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER ISSUES STATEMENT ON DEATH OF BAKERSFIELD SOLDIER

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Sgt. 1st Class Luis E. Gutierrez-Rosales, of Bakersfield, CA:

"Today, Californians mourn the tragic loss of Sergeant First Class Luis Gutierrez-Rosales. Luis will forever be remembered for his courage and honor in defending our nation and his dedicated service to our country. Maria and I extend our sincerest condolences and prayers to his family, friends and fellow soldiers during this difficult time."

Gutierrez-Rosales, 38, died July 18 as a result of wounds sustained when his vehicle was attacked by enemy forces using an improvised explosive device and small arms fire in Adhamiyah, Iraq. Gutierrez-Rosales was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, United States Army, Schweinfurt, Germany.

In honor of Sgt. 1st Class Gutierrez-Rosales, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



July 25, 2007

GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER ISSUES STATEMENT ON DEATH OF DIXON SOLDIER

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Sgt. Shawn G. Adams, of Dixon, CA:

"Serving in the United States Army, Sergeant Shawn Adams fulfilled a tremendous duty to our country. He made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of his fellow Americans and will forever be remembered for his bravery and dedicated service. Maria and I extend our heartfelt condolences and prayers to his family and friends."

Adams, 21, died July 22 as a result of wounds suffered from an improvised explosive device in Owaset, Iraq. Adams was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, United States Army, Fort Richardson, AK.

In honor of Sgt. Adams, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.

Note to editors: This News for Veterans and previous CDVA news for veterans, news releases, and advisories are available on our website at www.cdva.ca.gov and via e-mail from jaimeteaga@cdva.ca.gov.